



University of Washington  
FACULTY SENATE  
Box 351271

Class B Bulletin No. 184

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### General Legislative Action

At its meeting on January 26, 2017, the Faculty Senate approved Class B legislation to amend Scholastic Regulations, Chapter 101: Admissions. President Cauce has also approved the proposed legislation. This legislation would allow the University to consider "area of academic interest" for undergraduate applicants. The faculty was given the opportunity to submit written objections to its substantive nature, under the *Faculty Code*, Chapter 22, [Section 22-74](#) Senate Procedure: Class B Actions. There were four objections to this legislation.

#### **Class B Legislation: Scholastic Regulations Chapter 101 – Admissions**

##### Background and Rationale:

The Faculty Senate leadership constituted a faculty task force in Autumn Quarter 2016 to evaluate the undergraduate enrollment management issues of the Seattle campus. This revision to the Student Regulations is the first recommendation to come from the task force. This recommendation was reviewed and approved by the Faculty Council on Academic Standards (FCAS).

The general criteria considered in the holistic review of undergraduate applicants to the University are given in Chapter 101 of the Student Regulations. While the explicit list of the specific criteria has not been considered to be exhaustive, the type of information that can be considered has been understood to be prescribed by this list. Most of our peer institutions that do holistic review include an additional area, which we describe in the proposed change as "area of academic interest." The intent is that this wording is sufficiently broad to be compatible with the other areas (e.g. "courses taken" and "leadership"), but indicative of a new type of information. Area of academic interest can be demonstrated by the applicants in a variety of ways, including the applicant's requested major, previously completed coursework, or essays. Area of academic interest will be used along with the other information.

Additionally, the existing wording of the regulations does not make clear that the general criteria can be used in different relative ways for the different groups of applicants, i.e., freshman vs. transfer applicants and those groups determined by residency status (Washington state residents, non-Washington state domestic (which means "US") residents, and international applicants). All applicants will continue to be reviewed holistically and FCAS will continue to monitor closely all admissions procedures for the Seattle campus.

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Scholastic Regulations  
Chapter 101 Admission

#### 2. Admission to Undergraduate Standing

A. Holistic Review

Undergraduate programs offered by the University lead to a bachelor's degree. Admission is competitive. In making admissions judgment, the University uses a holistic review process. This process considers such factors as high school grade-point average, courses taken, grade-point average in transferable college level course work, institution(s) attended, level of entry, scores on an acceptable admissions test when required, areas of academic interest, and personal factors such as school and community service, leadership, overcoming adversity, and family educational and socioeconomic background. The relative consideration of these factors may differ between freshman and transfer applicants and among Washington State residents, non-Washington State domestic residents, and international applicants. The Faculty Council on Academic Standards shall periodically review and approve the holistic review process.

B. Distribution of Enrollment

Admission to the University is competitive, which means there are more qualified applicants than can be admitted.

The Provost, therefore, in consultation with the Senate Committee on Planning and Budgeting (SCPB), shall determine the distribution of enrollment among freshmen, Washington community college transfer, other college transfer, and postbaccalaureate applicants, as well as the distribution of entrants between residents and non-residents of the state of Washington.

Consideration for admission is assured when the applicant fulfills the requirements in Subsections 2.B.1 or 2.B.2 below.

1. Freshman or Transfer Admission

The University shall consider for admission any applicant who meets the following minimum standards:

- a. Completion of a college preparatory course of study to include the following high school credits\*:
  - 4 high school credits of English;
  - 2 high school credits of a single foreign language;
  - 3 high school credits of mathematics: algebra, geometry, and preferably trigonometry (a fourth high school credit of mathematical analysis or calculus is recommended for students preparing for majors in the sciences or engineering);
  - 2 high school credits of science including one laboratory science course in biology, chemistry or physics;
  - 3 high school credits of social science;
  - 1/2 high school credit of the fine or performing arts; and
  - 1/2 high school credit of electives taken from the above areas.

Total 15 high school credits of college preparatory course work.

\*One high school credit represents a standard full year of high school course work.

- b. A scholastic and personal record that indicates the applicant is adequately prepared to complete a degree at the University of Washington.
- c. Submission of scores on an acceptable admission test such as the SAT or the ACT, unless the applicant has earned at least 40 reasonably distributed transferable quarter-credits after high school graduation.

2. Transfer Agreement Admission

Students may also be admitted to the University under the terms of transfer agreements between the University and community colleges of the state of Washington, provided that they satisfy the mathematics and foreign language requirements in Subsection 2.B.1.a above or the equivalent college courses. Students must also satisfy the general education requirements of a qualifying academic Associate of Arts or Sciences degree.

C. Additional Considerations

The University in its discretion may consider applicants for admission who do not meet the above requirements, but are able to submit additional evidence supportive of sufficient promise of benefiting from or contributing to the University's undergraduate programs. Admission test scores may be waived by the Office of Admissions when the applicant's high school and/or college scholastic records indicate a high probability of academic success.

D. Review of Denial

Denied applicants may request an additional review of their admission files if they believe an error or omission has occurred. All supportive documentation should be filed with the initial application. Late documents will ordinarily not be considered after the initial decision has been made.

E. Non-Matriculated Students Enrolled for Credit

Non-matriculated students may be enrolled for credit on a space available basis to pursue limited academic objectives, but they are not admitted to a degree program or to a department, school, or college of the University. Non-matriculated students subsequently admitted in matriculated status must complete at least 45 credits in matriculated status to qualify for a degree.

F. Duplication of Credit

A student may not receive University credit for repetition of work at the same or at a more elementary level, if credit has been granted in an earlier course. This rule applies whether the earlier course was taken in high school or college, and whether, in the latter case, course numbers are or are not duplicated, except that when continuation of previous study is involved (e.g., foreign language), proper placement for credit in University courses shall be determined by the department that presents the subject.

G. ~~Non-WA State Domestic~~ ~~Out of State~~ and International Students

The University recognizes the academic and educational benefits of a geographically diverse student body. In order that the University meet its primary obligation to residents of the state, the admissions requirements for ~~non-Washington State domestic~~ ~~out of state~~ and international applicants are more restrictive than those of Washington State resident applicants and the criteria or consideration of criteria used for selection of non-Washington State domestic and international applicants may differ from those of Washington State residents. All successful international applicants shall have demonstrated English language competency.

*Approved by:*  
Senate Executive Committee  
January 9, 2017

*Approved by:*  
Faculty Senate  
January 26, 2017